

Message Text

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TO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: PARTICIPATION OF IEA REPORTING COMPANIES IN THE
INITIAL MEETING OF THE INDUSTRY ADVISORY BOARD

1. FOLLOWING MESSAGE SHOULD BE TRANSMITTED TO IEA
SECRETARIAT (LANTZKE OR HOPKINS) IN CONNECTION WITH
INITIAL MEETING OF IAB.

2. ON MARCH TWENTY-EIGHT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
APPROVED THE VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT WHICH WILL
PERMIT THE 19 US OIL COMPANIES DESIGNATED AS REPORTING
COMPANIES BY THE IEA GOVERNING BOARD TO PARTICIPATE IN
IEA ACTIVITIES. ONE OF THE FIRST SUCH ACTIVITIES WILL
BE THE PARTICIPATION OF SOME OF THESE COMPANIES (THE FIVE
MAJORS PLUS 2 SO-CALLED INDEPENDENTS) IN THE INITIAL

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MAJORS PLUS 2 SO-CALLED INDEPENDENTS) IN THE INITIAL

MEETING OF THE INDUSTRY ADVISORY BOARD (IAB) WHICH WILL BE SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 10 ASSUMING, AS WE EXPECT, THAT THE VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT AND ALL OTHER PROCEDURES RELATED THERETO HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.

3. INITIAL IAB MEETING IMPORTANT BECAUSE IT WILL BE ORGANIZATIONAL EFFORT AND WILL ESTABLISH MANY OF THE

GROUND RULES WHICH WILL GOVERN SUBSEQUENT IAB ACTIVITIES. AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF IAB RESPONSIBILITY WILL BE TO REPRESENT AND KEEP INFORMED THOSE COMPANIES WHICH HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO SUBMIT DATA TO THE IEA BUT ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE BOARD ITSELF. AS CONSTITUTED, IAB MEMBERS HAVE BEEN DRAWN PRIMARILY FROM COMPANIES WHICH PARTICIPATED IN THE WORK OF THE OIL INDUSTRY WORKING PARTY. THIS IS APPROPRIATE AND HAS BEEN BASED ON THE NEED TO CONSIDER RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF COMPANIES IN THE INTERNATIONAL OIL MARKET AND TO ESTABLISH A CERTAIN DEGREE OF GEOGRAPHIC BALANCE. HOWEVER, A CONSEQUENCE OF THIS IS THAT DATA REPORTING COMPANIES NOT SERVING ON THE IAB ARE, WITHOUT EXCEPTION, THOSE WHICH HAVE NOT PARTICIPATED IN ANY IEA ACTIVITIES AND ARE AWARE ONLY INDIRECTLY OF THE ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE IAB.

4. THE US CONCURS IN THE NEED TO KEEP THE IAB A BODY OF LIMITED MEMBERSHIP BUT AT THE SAME TIME WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT THAT APPROPRIATE LINKS BETWEEN THE IAB AND THE OTHER REPORTING COMPANIES SHOULD BE CLEARLY ESTABLISHED AT THE OUTSET. THIS IS A PROBLEM OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THE US BECAUSE OF THE RELATIVELY LARGE MEMBER OF US COMPANIES (12) WHICH WILL BE REPORTING TO THE IEA BUT WILL NOT SERVE ON THE IAB BUT IT IS ALSO A PROBLEM OF POSSIBLE CONCERN TO OTHER COUNTRIES WITH COMPANIES IN THE SAME SITUATION.

5. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, AND GIVEN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE INITIAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE IAB, THE US STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE IEA SECRETARIAT INVITE ALL IEA DATA REPORTING COMPANIES TO THE INITIAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEETING OF THE IEA. THOSE COMPANIES NOT PREVIOUSLY SELECTED TO SERVE IN THE IAB, WOULD ATTEND IN AN OBSERVER STATUS, IT BEING MADE CLEAR THAT THEIR PARTICIPATION AS OBSERVERS IN THE INITIAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING IS MEANT TO INFORM THEM OF THE WORK OF THE IAB AS REQUIRED BY THE DECISIONS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD AND DOES NOT SET A PRECEDENT FOR FUTURE PARTICIPATION IN SUCH MEETINGS EXCEPT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GUIDELINES ES-

TABLISHED FOR THE IAB BY THE IEA.

6. THE US IS CONVINCED THAT THE PROPOSAL WILL FACILITATE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN APPROPRIATE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE REPORTING COMPANIES AND THE IAB. IT WILL ALSO SERVE AS AN EDUCATIONAL EXERCISE FOR THE REPORTING

COMPANIES NOT PREVIOUSLY INVOLVED IN IEA ACTIVITIES AND AS SUCH SHOULD FACILITATE THEIR PARTICIPATION AND ENCOURAGE THEIR COOPERATION IN THE WORK OF THE IAB.

7. FYI. IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR EFFORTS TO OBTAIN ADEQUATE LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY TO IMPLEMENT THE IEP AGREEMENT, WE ARE CONCERNED TO AVOID EXCITING CONCERNS AND OPPOSITION OF "INDEPENDENTS", WHO HAVE ALREADY EXPRESSED APPREHENSION OVER THEIR LACK OF INVOLVEMENT SO FAR IN IEA ACTIVITIES. THEREFORE ATTACH CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE TO THIS PROPOSAL, WHICH WE BELIEVE, ALSO COMMENTS ITSELF ON ITS OWN MERITS. END FYI.

8. FOR EMBASSY THE HAGUE - PLEASE INFORM VAN RHIJN, CHAIRMAN OF IEA STANDING GROUP ON EMERGENCY QUESTION, OF ABOVE PROPOSAL TO THE SECRETARIAT. KISSINGER

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